



# Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks **RECEIVED**

Helena Area Resource Office  
PO Box 200701  
930 Custer Avenue  
Helena MT 59620-0701

NOV 04 2004

November 1, 2004

## LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY OFFICE

TO: Governor's Office, Todd O'Hair, Rm. 204, State Capitol, P.O. Box 200801, Helena, MT 59620-0801  
Environmental Quality Council, Capitol Building, Room 106, P.O. Box 201704, Helena, MT 59620  
Dept. Environmental Quality, Metcalf Building, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901  
Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation, Bud Clinch, PO Box 201601, Helena, MT 59620  
Water Resources Division, 48 N. Last Chance Gulch, P.O. Box 201601, Helena, MT 59620-1601  
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 1420 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. Helena, MT 59620  
Director's Office  
Fisheries Division  
Parks Division  
Design and Construction Bureau  
MT Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, P.O. Box 201202, Helena, MT 59620-1202  
MT State Library, 1515 E. Sixth Ave., P.O. Box 201800, Helena, MT 59620  
James Jensen, Montana Environmental Information Center, POB 1184, Helena, MT 59624  
Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon Council, P.O. Box 924, Helena, MT 59624  
Northern Plains Resource Council, 2401 Montana Ave. Suite 200, Billings, MT 59101-2336  
Jefferson County Commissioners, P.O. Box H, Boulder, MT 59632  
Jefferson County Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinator, P.O. Box H, Boulder, MT 59632  
MT Wildlife Federation, P.O. Box 1175, Helena, MT 59624  
Trout Unlimited, P.O. Box 7186, Missoula, MT 59807  
MT State Parks Association, P.O. Box 699, Billings, MT 59103  
George Ochenski, P.O. Box 689, Helena, MT 59624  
Rep. Jill Coheneour, 2610 Colt Drive, East Helena, MT 59635  
Rep. Dave Gallik, 120 E Lyndale Avenue, Helena, MT 59602  
Rep. Christine Kaufmann, PO Box 1566, Helena, MT 59624  
Rep. Hal Jacobson, 4813 US Highway 12 West, Helena, MT 59601  
Rep. Dave Lewis, 5871 Collins Drive, Helena, MT 59602  
Rep. Mike Cooney, 713 Pyrite Court, Helena, MT 59601  
Sen. Ken Toole, PO Box 1462, Helena, MT 59624  
Sen. Duane Grimes, 4 Hole In the Wall, Clancy, MT 59634.  
Rep Scott Mendenhall, McKeown Ln, Cardwell, MT 59721

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The enclosed Decision Notice has been prepared for the Park Lake Dam rehabilitation. Please contact Michael Korn, Helena Area Coordinator at (406) 495-3260 should you have any questions about the Decision Notice or the Final EA. Copies of the Final EA are available upon request. Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
Michael Korn  
Helena Area Coordinator

## **RECORD OF DECISION**

### **Park Lake Dam Rehabilitation**

Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks  
Helena Area Resource Office  
930 Custer Ave. West  
Helena, MT 59620

#### **Proposal**

On September 16, 2004 Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (MFWP) released a supplement to the Park Lake Dam Rehabilitation Environmental Assessment (3/15/04). The Rehabilitation Project is proposed to upgrade the dam structure to meet standards set by the state of Montana.

The Supplemental Document addressed issues associated with changing the starting date from fall of 2004 to the spring of 2005. The change in construction from June through September 2005 will result in the site being closed to the public during work.

The proposed action included the reconstruction of the dam embankment, the replacement of the primary spillway (road culvert), and the placement of riprap on the outlet channel. Approximately 30,000 cubic yards of material would be used in the cut and fill operations, with approximately 5 acres disturbed. The reservoir elevation would be lowered during construction, with the majority of the work conducted above the water level. Any disturbed areas would be reclaimed upon completion of the project, with the exception of the maintenance access to the main dam, which would be maintained for future use. The types of equipment used for the project would include bulldozers, backhoes, front-end loaders, tracked excavators, graders, and dump trucks.

A cultural clearance for the project from the Montana State Historic Preservation Office was obtained in July 2000.

#### **Public Process and Comment**

A 30-day public comment period on the supplemental proposal began September 16, 2004 and ended on October 18, 2004. A legal notice describing the proposed modification was published in the Helena Independent Record on September 19, 2004. A feature article describing the proposed action was printed in the Helena Independent Record on September 2, 2004 and an article was printed in the Jefferson County Courier on September 29, 2004. Additionally MFWP staff discussed the proposed action with the Jefferson County Commission. A statewide press release was sent to print and broadcast media and the proposed modification was posted on the FWP web site. No comments were received regarding the proposed action.

The Helena National Forest is a partner in the project and solicited public comment regarding impacts to National Forest lands and the public during the same time period. The Helena National Forest received no comments.

## Decision

Based on the analysis in the Environmental Assessment (EA) Supplemental Document and applicable laws regulations and policies, I conclude that the proposed action will not result in any significant impacts. I will adopt the draft EA as the final EA and proceed with the project, as planned. The final EA and Supplement may be viewed or obtained from Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks, Helena Area Resource Office



November 1, 2004

Michael Korn  
Helena Area Coordinator

Please direct any questions to:

Michael Korn, Helena Area Coordinator  
Helena Area Resource Office, MFWP  
930 Custer Ave.  
Helena, MT 59620  
(406) 495-3260